

1991-06-21

## George Bernard Shaw 1st International Summer school : Kevin Street College of Technology

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**DUBLIN 1991**  
**European City of Culture**

Dublin Institute of Technology  
Kevin Street, Dublin 8.



**GEORGE BERNARD SHAW**  
**1ST INTERNATIONAL SUMMER SCHOOL**

June 21st, 22nd, 23rd. 1991

~ AT ~

COLLEGE OF TECHNOLOGY,  
KEVIN STREET, DUBLIN 8.

## Organising Committee:

Mr. Francis M. Brennan - Director.  
Dr. Declan Kiberd - Academic Director.  
Mr. Con Howard - Project Director.  
Mr. Tom Ahern.  
Mr. John C. Batt.  
Ms. Monica Clune.  
Professor Nicholas Grene.  
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Mr. Edward J. Delaney - Secretary.

College of Technology, Kevin Street, Dublin 8.  
Telephone No. 757541.

Secretarial Assistance: Ms. Annette Walsh.

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**Message from The Rt. Hon. The Lord Mayor  
Councillor Michael Donnelly.**

Dublin's literary heritage is so rich and varied that Dubliners easily take for granted the wealth of literary talent our city has produced.

George Bernard Shaw is, of course, among the literary giants we have produced and although we are familiar with his greatness we probably have lost sight of the sheer breadth and depth of his work.

The celebration of our designation of Dublin as European City of Culture gives us a fresh opportunity to dwell on the genius of Shaw and renew our appreciation of his work.

It is with this sense of pleasurable anticipation that I welcome the George Bernard Shaw Summer School of 1991. This event will, I am sure, renew our devotion to Shaw and his works. It will, too, bring Shaw to new minds and hearts and familiarise those who haven't yet shared in the pleasures of Shaw's writings.

I wish this Summer School every success. I feel Shaw would have approved. I certainly do and I know I speak for all Dubliners when I wish your discussions, deliberations and debates a lively atmosphere.

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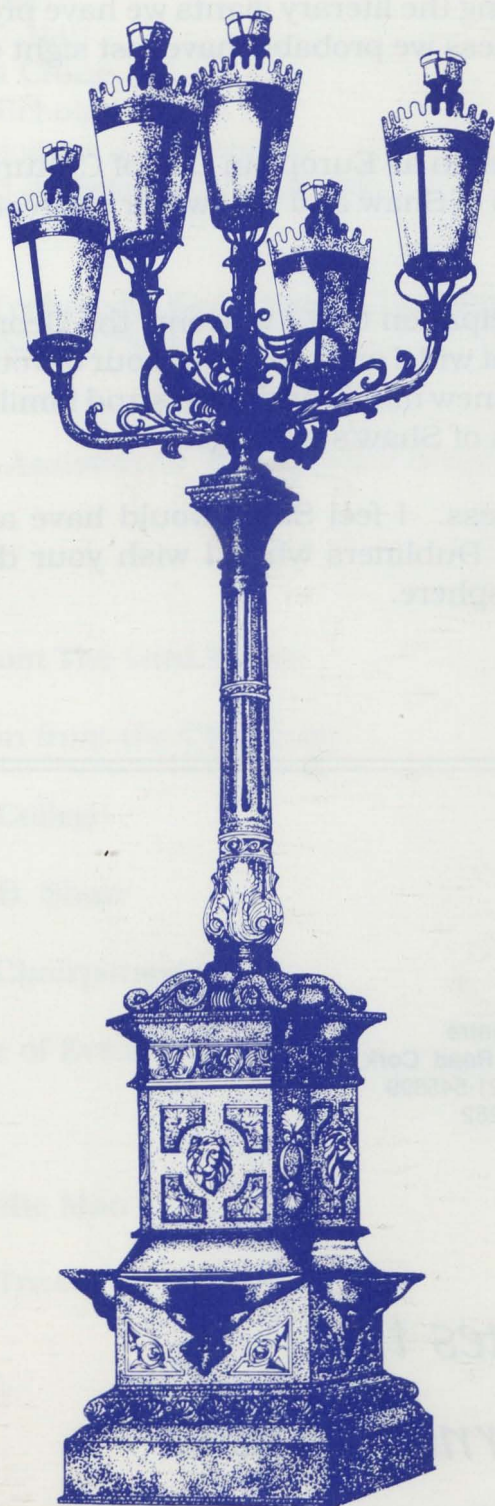


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George Bernard Shaw  
International Summer School  
every success.*





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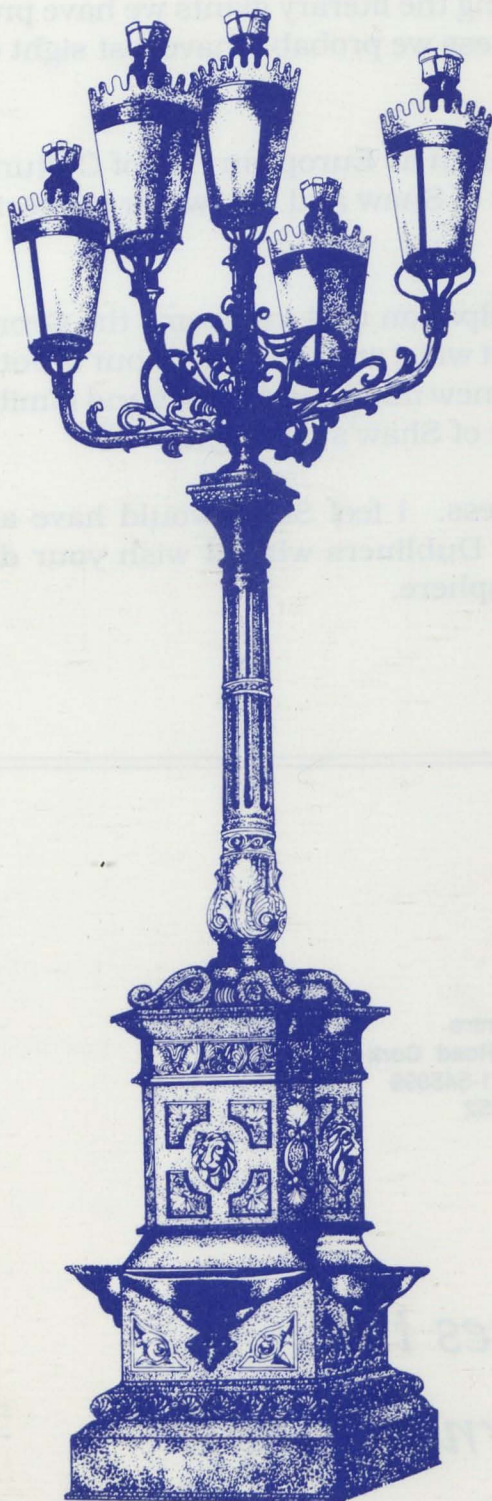


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## Introduction from the Chairman of the C.D.V.E.C. Councillor Pat Carey.

George Bernard Shaw loved his native city - deep down. He didn't love it enough to live in it, but it formed him and formed many of his attitudes. It gave him his hatred of poverty and it was in Dublin that he learned to detest slum life because he 'saw it, smelt it and loathed it'. And yet it was to Dublin and Ireland that he left a substantial portion of his money and property.

There are many reasons why the Vocational Education Committee and Kevin Street, College of Technology are proud to participate in the Shaw Summer School. Bernard Shaw was born a few hundred yards away from the College in Synge Street. He was educated in Wesley College on Stephen's Green and in the Dublin Commercial School in Aungier Street - both a mere stone's throw from Kevin Street.

But perhaps as important as the physical proximity of Shaw's birthplace and places of residence and worship to Kevin Street is another area of affinity between Shaw and the College. Because much of his time during his early decades in London was devoted to lectures, pamphlets, debating and study circles which formed the basis of an intellectual and political movement which believed in the value of education for all. The Fabians, trade unionists and writers of the late Victorian years believed in working class education as a significant influence in what we, today, might call social engineering.

George Bernard Shaw was at the centre of that movement. The Technical Institutes of Kevin Street, Bolton Street and Ringsend, The Municipal School of Music and the beginnings of the institutions of the VEC were (in Dublin) the fruits of that movement.

The establishment of these Technical Institutes, of night schools and of lecture series usually organised under newly reformed local government systems brought education to the working classes of the large teeming poverty stricken cities of a century ago.

I offer an enthusiastic welcome to the George Bernard Shaw Summer School. The three days

will cover not just the writer Shaw, but also his interest in history, his pride in his Irish protestant antecedents and his devotion to music. (This interest in music was learned in the unconventional domestic circumstances of his residence in Hatch Street). The Summer School takes place within the octave of this year's Municipal Elections.

I might, then, be permitted to refer to the fact that Shaw was both a propagandist and a politician. His deepfelt beliefs in a fairer, more egalitarian society occupied much of his time. He did not believe in a dictotomy between the artist or writer and the welfare of his fellow citizens.

I wish the Shaw Summer School every success. I hope the participants derive enjoyment, entertainment and enlightenment from the weekend.

And to the organising committee and speakers I offer our very deep gratitude.

June 1991.

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## **Outline of the College.**

The College is greatly honoured by the many distinguished guests who have gathered together this weekend to celebrate a great and famous Dubliner. On behalf of my colleagues, I extend the warmest welcome to all who are participating in this 1st International Summer School on George Bernard Shaw. For most this will be their first visit here and the work and aspirations of this institute will be either unknown or misunderstood. It might be useful, therefore to briefly outline the background and business of this College of Technology.

The College is committed to the achievement of excellence in education in the area of higher technology through participation in educational and research/development programmes. Students are encouraged to involve themselves in a variety of cultural activities in addition to being required to study a modern language and business/management subjects.

The College is cognisant of its responsibilities both in relation to the overall formation of each individual student and towards making a significant contribution to national development.

The College, founded in 1887, is the longest established of its type in the country. Arnold Graves (uncle of the poet, Robert Graves) was a prominent member of the Founders and was Secretary of the first Board of Governors. Others who were involved in the early years of the College included Charles Stewart Parnell and Michael Davitt. Professor George Francis Fitzgerald of Trinity College, a scientist of international standing, gave lengthy service as a Governor, as did Rev. Professor Gerald Molloy, Rector of the Catholic University, and Professors W. Barrett, W.R. McNab and J.P. O'Reilly all of the Royal College of Science. Michael Cusack founder member of the G.A.A., was a teacher of Irish at Kevin Street for a number of years. Edward Cecil Guinness, first Earl of Iveagh, was one of the most generous of the many who sponsored the establishment and development of the College in the nineteenth century.

The venture into technical education was highly successful, and led to the establishment of the Pembroke Technical Institute (1893), the extension of the premises at Kevin Street (1899) and the movement of some activities to new centres at Parnell Square, (1906), and at Bolton Street, (1911).

Today the College is comprised of eight Departments:

- Biological Sciences;
- Chemistry;
- Mathematics, Statistics and Computer Science;
- Physics;
- Control Systems and Electrical Engineering;
- Electronic and Communications Engineering;
- Languages and Industrial Studies;
- Electrical Installation.



Courses are conducted over a range of levels, leading to technician and degree awards. In recent years there has been a significant increase in the research undertaken in the College directed towards industrial needs and leading to post-graduate awards.

The academic staff establishment of the College is in excess of 200 members with as many again serving on a part-time basis. The total student population is 4,200, of whom half are full-time and almost 40% are female. At present, 53 students are registered for post-graduate degrees at Master and Doctorate levels, and work under the supervision of College staff.

The College is one of six which constitute the Dublin Institute of Technology.

The other Colleges of DIT are:

- College of Technology, Bolton Street;
- College of Commerce;
- Dublin College of Catering;
- College of Marketing and Design;
- College of Music.

The total student population of DIT is approximately 24,000 persons.

In 1976 a special agreement was signed by the University of Dublin and the City of Dublin Vocational Education Committee. As part of that Agreement graduates of certain courses offered by the DIT Colleges are eligible for degrees of the University of Dublin.

In a nutshell this is a rough sketch of our College. As with any College however, a college is essentially the people who comprise it. This College can be justly proud of its staff, students, graduates and friends. The launch of this Summer School has extended the college because it has been greatly enriched by the new friends which we have won for our involvement with the School.

I am deeply appreciative and thankful to the many people who have contributed so readily and so generously towards this effort. I hope that we can justify the trust which you place in us and that in years to come we, all of us, will be able to look back to 1991 with a little pride, on the first, cautious steps which we have taken together this weekend.

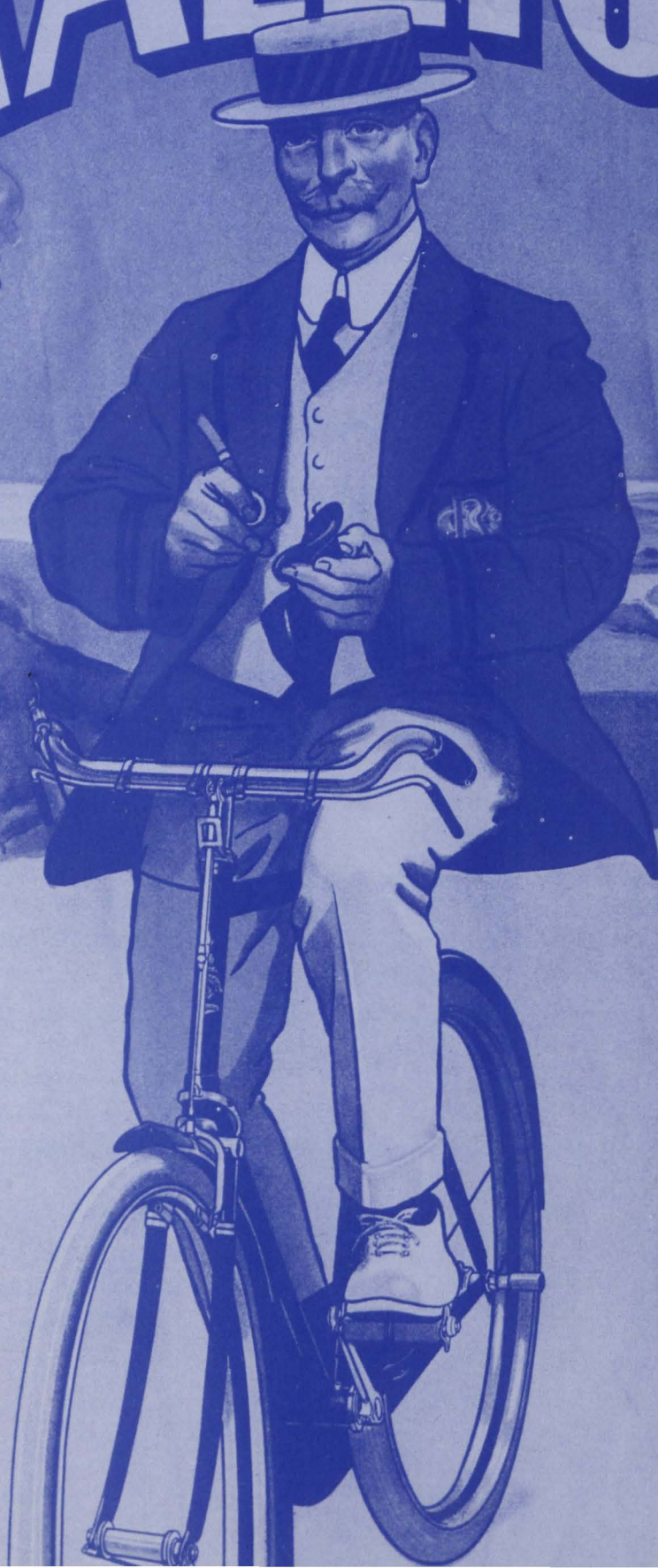
F.M. Brennan  
Principal



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## Note on George Bernard Shaw

by Declan Kiberd

George Bernard Shaw was born in Dublin, 1856, the son of a "downstart" merchant who frittered away the family substance on drink. His mother Lucinda was a keen musician. He attended the Central Model School in Marlborough Street and Wesley College, but left at fifteen, conceiving a grand disdain for institutional educationalists. There after he worked as clerk in the office of a land-agent in Harcourt Street, gaining some insight into the conditions of the Dublin poor. Associating Dublin with begrudgery, backwardness and failure -- as well as the social ostracism of his declining family -- he went to London in 1876, resolving never to return. "As long as Ireland produces men with sense enough to leave her", he later wrote, "she does not exist in vain".

In London, he suppressed all remaining links to his disgraced father George Carr Shaw, recasting himself as "GBS", the self-invented child of his own writings (according to his biographer, Michael Holroyd). He wrote five unsuccessful novels, of which the best-known is *Cashel Byron's Profession*. Success did not come easily, but through immensely hard work and an extensive period of reading and study, Shaw formed himself into a prodigious intellectual force. Though shy and awkward by nature, he became by sheer practice a brilliant public speaker on behalf of the Fabian Society, which he joined in 1884. His earliest literary success was as a music critic "Corno di Bassetto" for *The Star* in 1888, where his wit and directness won many admirers. In 1892 he produced his first play, *Widowers' Houses*, but in the following year a play about prostitution *Mrs Warren's Profession* was refused a licence by the Lord Chamberlain, leading many to conclude that his dramatic career was already over. It was only beginning. Becoming a firm champion of Ibsen and his problem plays, Shaw went on to write *Arms and the Man*, *Candida* and other works, still with no major recognition. However, his 1904 play about Anglo-Irish relations *John Bull's Other Island* excited great interest, being watched by many cabinet members including Prime Minister Balfour. (Edward VII broke his special chair with laughing at some of the jokes). Thereafter Shaw was on his way to becoming one of the major playwrights of the twentieth century with such works as *Saint Joan* and *Back to Methuselah*. He was one of three Dubliners to win the Nobel Prize for Literature. He maintained his political work, transforming the Fabians into the modern British Labour Party and writing many commentaries on Irish politics which have been gathered in a book called *The Matter with Ireland*.

Though Shaw left Ireland in body, he never quite abandoned Ireland in mind, presenting himself as a mediator between Irish and English people at a time of acute tension in their relations. He asserted his pride in Irish Protestantism and urged southern Protestants to play a full part in the nation's public life. He denounced the execution of 1916 rebel leaders as an illegal killing of prisoners of war which would only manufacture more martyrs; and he helped to frame the defence of Sir Roger Casement during his trial. He warned against the damage which could be done by partition and urged all English people to visit and understand Ireland, which he jocularly described as "an open-air asylum to which Englishmen should be sent to learn flexibility of mind". Patriotic to the last, he left a major collection of his manuscripts to the National Library and a generous bequest to the National Gallery, among whose pictures he said he had first learned to love artistic beauty while sheltering from the Dublin rain. He died in 1950, the most famous artist in the world. Bertold Brecht said that above all he would be remembered as an artist.



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Automobile Association  
College of Technology Kevin Street  
College of Technology Bolton Street  
College of Commerce Rathmines  
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## Speakers/Chairpersons

**Professor Brian Boydell:** Professor Emeritus of Music in Trinity College Dublin.

**Mr. Tony Cronin:** Poet, Writer, Cultural Artistic Advisor to An Taoiseach.

**Ms. Carol Coulter:** Journalist.

**Prof. Owen Dudley-Edwards:** Historian, Lecturer, Author'.

**Mr. Peter Gahan:** Lecturer, Broadcaster, Writer.

**Mr. Stan Gebler-Davies:** Journalist, Author.

**Professor Nicholas Grene:** Associate Professor of English, Trinity College, Dublin. Author of books on Synge and Shaw.

**Rt. Hon. Roy Hattersley M.P.:** Deputy Leader of British Labour Party, Author, Broadcaster.

**Professor Seamus Heaney:** Professor of Poetry, University of Oxford, Professor of Rhetoric, Harvard University, distinguished author of many volumes of poetry including "The Haw Lantern", and most recently of his first play "The Cure at Troy".

**Dr. Patrick J. Hillery:** President of Ireland 1976 - 1990, Former Minister for Education, Foreign Affairs, Labour, EC Commissioner for Consumer Affairs 1973 - 76.

**Mr. Michael Holroyd CBE:** Biographer of Shaw.

**Dr. Declan Kiberd:** Lecturer in English, University College Dublin, Author of "Synge and the Irish Language".

**Ms. Morgan Llywelyn:** Novelist.

**An tUas Brendain MacLua:** Writer, Broadcaster and until recently, Editor of "Irish Post".

**Mr. Kevin Myers:** Columnist and Feature Writer, Author, T.V. Personality.

**Sir Sidney Nolan O.M.:** Australian Painter. Friend of Ireland, Supporter of Irish Museum of Modern Art.

**Mr. Ulick O'Connor:** Broadcaster, Writer, Poet, Biographer of Behan and Gogarty. Author of "Celtic Dawn".

**Dr. Michael Wynne:** Keeper of the National Gallery, writer on Irish Art and 17th and 18th Century Art.

**Ms. Olivia O'Leary:** Journalist, Broadcaster RTE and BBC.

**An tUas Sean O'hEidirsceoil:** Former Government Official in Dublin and Brussels.

**Professor Katharine Worth:** Professor Emeritus of University of London, Author of "The Irish Drama of Europe from Yeats to Beckett".



## ~• PROGRAMME OF EVENTS •~

### ***Friday, 21st June 1991.***

6.00 p.m.	Reception.
Official Opening	Dr. Patrick J. Hillery.
Speakers:	Mr. Michael Holroyd - "Shaw versus Hollywood" Rt. Hon. Roy Hattersley M.P.
Performance:	"Dear Liar" - Abbey Theatre Company.
10.30 p.m.	Shavian Club - Harcourt Hotel

### ***Saturday, 22nd June 1991***

9.45 a.m.	"Shaw versus Law"
Speaker:	An tUas Sean O' h-Eidirsceoil.
Chair:	Professor Seamus Heaney
10.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.	"The Matter with Ireland - Shaw Today".
Speakers:	Sir Sidney Nolan Mr. Tony Cronin Mr. Stan Gebler-Davies Prof. Nicholas Grene Mr. Michael Holroyd Ms. Morgan Llywelyn Prof. Katharine Worth
Chair:	Ms. Olivia O'Leary
Book Stall:	Fred Hanna Ltd.
Lunch	(National Gallery)
3.00 p.m.	National Gallery
Lecture:	Dr. Michael Wynne Keeper, National Gallery
4.00 p.m.	Visit to the National Library with Lecture
8.00 p.m.	Dinner



## **Saturday, 22nd June 1991 - cont'd**

Speaker: "Shaw as a Dubliner".  
Mr. Ulick O'Connor.

Proposer of vote of Thanks An tUas Brendain Mac Lua.

10.30 p.m. Shavian Club  
- Harcourt Hotel

## **Sunday, 23rd June 1991**

11.00 a.m. Shavian Walk-a-about  
Accompanied Walk-a-about  
immediate area.

~ OR ~

Film Shows and Video Tapes.  
Saint Joan/Pygmalion/Interviews.

2.30 p.m. A series of Talks.

"Shaw - Back to Methuselah  
& Creative Imagination"

Speaker: Mr. Peter Gahan  
Chair: Prof. Brian Boydell

"Shaw as a Historian".

Speaker: Prof. Owen Dudley-Edwards  
Chair: Mr. Kevin Myers.

"Shaw and Irish Protestantism".

Speaker: Dr. Declan Kiberd  
Chair: Ms. Carol Coulter

Book Stall: Fred Hanna Ltd.

8.00 p.m. "Arms and the Man"  
Parnassus Arts Group

10.30 p.m. Shavian Club  
- Harcourt Hotel



## "Dear Liar" by Jerome Kilty

### Readings from correspondence of George Bernard Shaw and Mrs. Patrick Campbell

Members of the National Theatre Society Limited, Abbey Theatre,  
Lr. Abbey Street, Dublin 1.

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Máire O'Neill

George Bernard Shaw:

Brian McGrath

Director:

Barry Cassin

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# Parnassus Arts Group

## ARMS AND THE MAN

### Cast (in order of appearance)

\*\*\*\*\*

Raina Petkoff:	Anne Varley
Catherine Petkoff:	Anne Vaughan
Louka:	Fiona Rice
Captain Bluntchli:	Declan O'Brien
Russian Officer:	Rodney Smith
Nicola:	Gerry O'Reilly
Major Petkoff:	Bernard Dunne
Major Sergius Saranoff:	Brian Molloy
-----	
DIRECTOR:	Seamus Thackaberry
-----	
Stage Manager:	Aine Rice
A.S.M.:	Mary O'Brien Deirdre Nelson
Lighting:	Charles Slane
Sound:	Seamus Thackaberry
Backstage:	Don Gleeson John Gallagher
-----	

The Play is set in the house of Major Petkoff in a small town in Bulgaria, near the Dragoman Pass.

Act 1; A lady's bedchamber in Bulgaria - late November 1885

Act 2; Garden of Major Petkoff on morning of 6th March 1886

Act 3; 'Library' of Major Petkoff's house - after lunch same day

There will be a short pause between Acts 1 and 2 and there will be a 15 minute interval between Acts 2 and 3.



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## The Shaw Trust

In 1984 Frances O'Gorman and Michael McCarthy were married and went to live in 33, Synge Street. Frances had always been interested in Bernard Shaw and was appalled at the condition of 33, Synge Street, Bernard Shaw's birthplace.

At this time the Shaw's house was owned by Mr. and Mrs. Eugene Giblin. Due to Frances' efforts the Giblin's decided to set up a Trust with the object of trying to raise money to turn the house into a museum. I was invited to join the Trust by the Giblin's as I have had a life long interest and admiration for Shaw, and have put on various entertainments over the years to try and interest the public in this wonderful man. I brought along the Hon. Desmond Guinness and Col. Fred O'Callaghan, both very old friends of mine and the Trust was set up. Finally the Giblins' left the Trust and the house went up for auction. By this stage John Batt has joined us as Project stage Director to try and collect money. Due to his efforts sufficient money was raised to purchase the house for £111,000, but a debt of £60,000 is still owing to the Bank and another £40,000 needed to repair the house. Although John Batt is no longer working with us we wish to express our gratitude to him and wish him well.

When the Trust was set up in 1988 I organised a series of Victorian Musical Evenings in the Mc Carthy's drawing room to draw attention to the state of the house and the dire need for money. Over the years I personally owe a great deal of gratitude to various old friends of mine, singers and musicians for giving their talents free on many occasions. I am now organising a series of "Musical Evenings with Mr. G.B. Shaw", sponsored by American Express and the Cultural Committee of the Corporation, in Portobello House by kind permission of Mr. Raymond Kearns, every Sunday during the Summer preceded by a visit to the one refurbished room recently opened by the President of Ireland in the Shaw house. Of interest to Shavians will be two songs composed by Bernard Shaw himself, which were obtained for me by Mr. Michael Holroyd. These songs have never been performed before in Ireland.

Two years ago I founded the Bernard Shaw Society in Dublin with the help of Threase Cronin and Frances McCarthy, we meet every third Wednesday in 3 Upper Fitzwilliam Street, by courtesy of the United Arts Club, and new members are always welcome.

Finally, may I on behalf of the Shaw Trust and the Bernard Shaw Society wish to the First Bernard Shaw, Summer School every success, and hope it goes on from strength to strength and to thank them for helping to bring more people to a deeper knowledge and appreciation of one of the greatest literary genius of our time.

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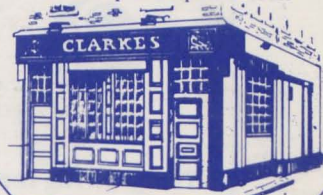
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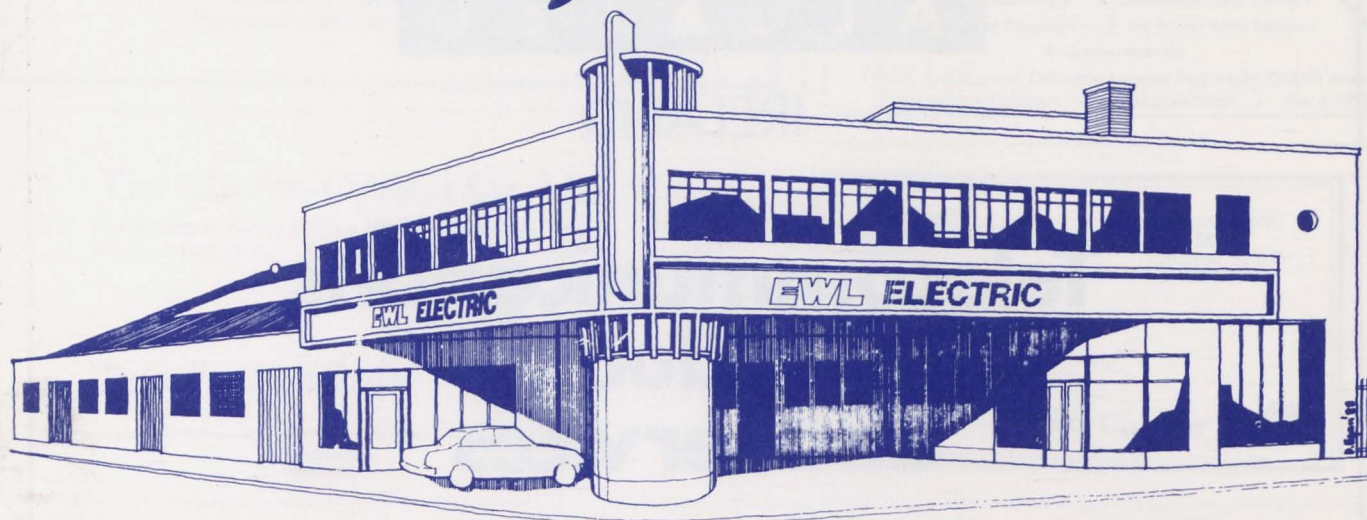
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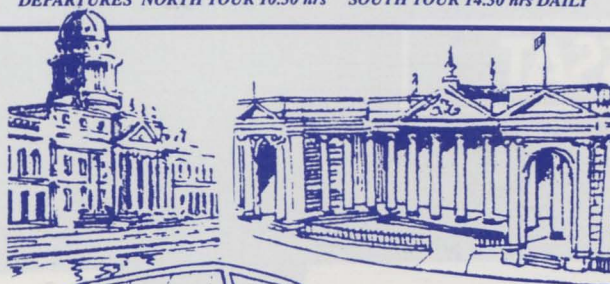
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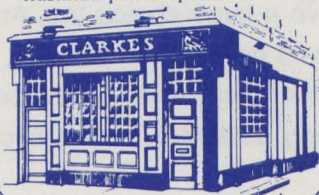
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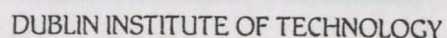


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